(b) The World Food Programme (WFP) Appraisal Mission recommended that food aid to Madhya Pradesh under Project-5697-Improvement of food security through forestry activities be continued.

(c) The project is included as a part of India Country Programme which has been approved by the WFP's Executive Board in January, 1997.

Open Market Sale by FCI

1532. SHRI NAMDEO DIWATHE : Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state :

(a) whether serious irregularities have been committed by the marketing officials of the FCI who were responsible for open market sale of the foodgrains in connivance with the traders;

(b) if so, total number of cases noticed/reported/ registered against the FCI officials during each of the last three years, State-wise;

(c) the details of the cases referred to CBI and the cases where the investigation has been completed alongwith the action taken against the defaulting officials; and

(d) the steps taken/proposed to be taken to streamline the operations of FCI and check corruption phenomena effectively ?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV) : (a) and (b) The State-wise cases noticed/reported/registered against FCI officials during the last three years are indicated as under :

	1994	1995	1996
Headquarters	14	18	46
North Zone	344	372	608
West Zone	119	105	73
East Zone	70	73	45
NE Zone	23	23	15
South Zone	45	50	90
	615	641	877

(c) A statement is enclosed.

(d) To streamline the operations of FCI and to check corruption, the FCI has formed a Special Squad in Vigilance Division of FCI Headquarters. The main objective of the squad is to increase the frequency of surprise checks/ investigation in corruption prone areas which include procurement centres, rail heads and high loss depots.

Statement

1. Four cases, as under, were referred to the CBI during 1996-97 (upto 28.2.1997) :—

(i) A case relating to financial impropriety and pilferage of rice alleged to have been committed in Patiala District of Punjab was initially registered with the local Police. After considering relevant factors, the aforesaid case has been referred to the CBI for investigation.

(ii) A case relating to avoidable expenditure of about Rs. 49 lakhs on transportation of foodgrains and sanctioning of higher rate of transportation in Haryana has been referred to the CBI for investigation on 30.1.1997.

(iii) An FIR was lodged in Rohtak District (Haryana) on 6.1.1997 alleging bribery and corruption in allotment of open sale wheat to certain parties. The Ministry of Food has conveyed its recommendation for handing over the case to the CBI.

(iv) An allegation was received that foodgrains despatched from Jabalpur to a nearby FCI depot had taken an unusually long period of 3-4 months. It was also alleged that stocks carried by trucks were sold in black-market. On 26.2.1997, the case has been referred to the CBI.

2. In none of the cases investigation has been completed so far.

Firing in Dabri Village

1533. SHRI I.D. SWAMI : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government ordered inquiries/fact finding committees into the firing incident by Delhi Police on 15.10.1996 at Dabri village;

(b) if so, whether the inquiry reports have since been received;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the action taken thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) to (d) The Lt. Governor of Delhi ordered an inquiry into the incident and the Inquiry Officer has since submitted his report which is under the consideration of the Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi.

Subsidy on Fertilizers

1534. SHRI BADAL CHOUDHURY : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :